

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-4, 6-13, 17-24, 42-44 and 47-58 were pending. Claims 1, 7, 10, 42-44, 53, 55 and 58 have been amended, no claims have been canceled and no claims have been added. No new matter is added hereby. Therefore, upon entry of this amendment, which is respectfully requested, claims 1-4, 6-13, 17-24, 42-44 and 47-58 will remain pending for examination.

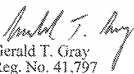
Claims 1-4, 6-13, 17-24, 42-44 and 47-58 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicants believe that this rejection is now moot in view of the above amendments to the independent claims. Applicants therefore respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection and allowance of the claims.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 925-472-5000.

Respectfully submitted,


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